Gamekeeper Rearrested; Held For Murder Attempt

Byron A. McCrodan Makes Statement—Is In Critical Condition.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Cobourg, May 19. — Gamekeeper William John Crossen, who was arrested Sunday on the charge of wounding, by shooting, Edward Rowe of Cobourg and Byron A. McCrodan of Toronto, and later admitted to bail, was rearrested this afternoon on instructions from the attorney-general's department at Toronto. He is now charged with attempting to commit murder. He appeared before Magistrate Flood this afternoon, and was remanded until May 27.

Late tonight Mr. McCrodan was in a serious condition, gangrene in virulent form having set in.

HON. N. W. ROWELL, K.C.

who, acting on behalf of the Dominion government, is arguing against the validity of the judicature act passed at the last session of the Ontario House.

WHITE WOULD HAVE BANKS WATCHED

Former Finance Minister Suggests Regular Inspections by Government Officials.

WOULD END FRAUDS

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, May 19.—Regular inspection of the head offices of Canadian banks by finance department officials was suggested by Sir Thomas White, former minister of finance, toward the conclusion of his argument before the Home Bank commission this afternoon. Sir Thomas, in supporting his contention that the placing of outside auditors in a bank might be provocative of very serious results to the institution, declared that the difficulty was one of long standing.

"Every minister of finance in the past thirteen years has felt himself in a very grave dilemma, when he received a complaint regarding the condition of a bank," he said. Ministers were without the means for taking action which would give them impartial information as to the condition of the bank without imperilling the position of the institution. Regular inspection by the officials of a specially established bureau of the finance department would prevent the perpetration of such gross frauds as in the case of the Home Bank. There must be real inspection and not a mere audit, however.

The former finance minister who began his argument on Friday afternoon, and continued it this morning, did not finish until this afternoon. He was followed by R. A. Reid, who is appearing before the commission on behalf of a number of shareholders opposed to payment of the double liability.

Work For Cabinet.

Mr. Reid insisted that provision should be made in the bank act for bringing complaints as to the solvency or insolvency of a bank by the whole government. A single cabinet minister should not be charged with the power of determining whether or not a bank required to be inspected. He contended that the Home Bank, which was an outgrowth of the Home Savings and Loan Society, had not been legally incorporated and that the process of transforming the society into a bank was also illegal.

Apparently some of those interested in the loan society "had seen the storm clouds gathering" and felt that there was some danger of the large loans not turning out well, and had decided to shift them over to a bank. As a result, Mr. Reid claimed, the bank, at its very inception, was saddled with these large obligations.

He criticized Hon. T. A. Crerar, a former shareholder and director of the bank, for not pressing the condition of the bank upon the attention of his colleagues when he entered the Union government, stating that both Mr. Crerar and the United Grain Growers had sold their stock and escaped the double liability.

Pauperized Investors.

Mr. Reid contended that until provision was made for government audit of banks, bank stock should not be regarded as a legitimate investment for trust funds. The failure of the Home Bank had pauperized people who had invested money in the institution.

Mr. Reid claimed that M. J. Haney, who had been associated with the bank since its inceptionn, knew that false statements in regard to the condition of the bank were being given out. The annual reports of the bank were "padded" for the purpose of misleading the public, and selling stock.

Surely Mr. Haney, even though under the doctor's care, could furnish the commission with a statement in regard to his association with the bank, said Mr. Reid. Not once had the former president (Mr. Haney) come out into the open and given testimony.

Mr. Reid will continue his argument tomorrow morning. He will be followed by Eugene Lafleur, K.C., and H. J. Symington, K.C., for the government. There is a possibility that this phase of the investigation will conclude tomorrow, but it is more likely to go over until Wednesday.

Was Deceived.

Sir Thomas White emphasized the fact that he was deceived as to the real condition of the institution. He supported this statement by quotations from letters received by him when finance minister. One, dated March 23, 1916, signed M. J. Haney, president, and Z. A. Lash, solicitor of the Home Bank, was written following the reorganization of the management. This letter stated that Messrs. Haney and T. A. Crerar had reported favorably on the Frost timber limits, that Mr. Haney thought the New Orleans loan could be pulled through, and that "the board expressed the opinion unaimously that if a proper time was given to do what was necessary to bring about the result indicated, they would be able to succeed."

Sir Thomas insisted that if he had closed the Home Bank after receiving the letter there would have been a cry to heaven against his injustice. "People would have claimed that I was in league with the big interests. I believe that if I had closed the bank a cry would have gone out that it was the most sacrilegious thing done since the time of Martin Luther," he declared.

As for the complaints of the western directors of the bank, Sir Thomas claimed that their attitude had shown considerable variation. In the first place, they complained against certain accounts, but did not ask an investigation. Secondly, they asked for an outside investigation. And, finally, when the management was reorganized, Hon. T. A. Crerar had come to Ottawa, said that the bank's condition was improved, and declared against an independent investigation. He had every confidence in Mr. Crerar. Sir Thomas reminded the commissioner. "What would your lordship have done if you had received that letter?" he asked.

Accepted the Report.

Finally, the former minister dealt with the MacHaffie letter of August, 1918, making charges against the bank directors and management.

Such letters are frequently received in the finance department, and nine out of ten are based on a quarrel or on pure spite," he said. "Most people that write such letters have axes to grind." However, he claimed that he had taken the letter seriously. It was the usual course to refer such letters to the board of the bank concerned in order to allow them to answer the charges, and this had been done. The answer has been a unanimous report from the board denying the MacHaffie charges, and intimating that he was inspired by Ananias in making them. Sir Thomas said he was of the opinion that the board of the bank was honest, and he accepted the report.

Continuing his argument at this morning's sitting of the Home Bank commission, Sir Thomas White, former finance minister, placed on record the clauses of the bank act, which were "mandatory" and those which were "permissive." He contended that section 56a of the act came into the latter category. This is the section under which an inspection of a bank may be ordered by the minister. He also quoted further extracts from authorities to illustrate his point, made at the last sitting, that the decisions of a minister or ex-minister are subject only to criticism by parliament. Sir Thomas emphasized the fact that he referred only to "unconditioned, honest executive, discretionary action by a minister."

PREMIER REPLIES IN MITCHELL CASE

Explains Meaning of Laurier-Fielding Tariff—Election Date Undecided.

Canadian Press Despatch.

Ottawa, May 19.—The date of the by-election in the St. Antoine division of Montreal, formerly represented by Hon. W. G. Mitchell, has not been decided, Premier King announced this afternoon when questioned by Right Hon. Arthur Meighen, Conservative leader. Mr. Meighen asked specially for an answer in view of the fact that Mr. Mitchell's resignation was "destined to test public opinion." The premier said that an announcement would be made of the date as soon as a decision had been reached. He laid on the table of the House the correspondence between Mr. Mitchell and himself.

The premier, in reply to Mr. Mitchell's letter announcing his resignation, wrote in part as follows:

"The phrase 'Laurier-Fielding tariff policy,' can have no meaning other than a policy on tariff matters in accordance with the principles advocated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Fielding. This, indeed, would appear to be your own view.

"The tariff changes proposed in the present budget are completely in accord, in principle and otherwise, with the measures consistently and persistently advocated and practiced by Sir Wilfrid and Mr. Fielding while in office from 1896 to 1911, and as advocated by them both prior to and subsequently to that period.

"As to what Sir Wilfrid Laurier's views and wishes were with respect to tariff revision in the event of the Liberal party being returned to power, there would appear to be, in your own case, no room for doubt, since you accompanied Sir Wilfrid through Western Canada in his last appeal to the electors in the general elections of 1917, at which time reduction of duties on the implements of production and a revision of the tariff in the interest also of consumers were a part of Sir Wilfrid's manifesto in that campaign."

W. SOUTHAM'S CONDITION STILL EXTREMELY LOW

Canadian Press Despatch.

Oshawa, May 20.—It was stated early this morning at the general hospital here, that Lieut. William Southam, victim of an automobile accident near Dunbarton on the night of Wednesday, May 7, was in an extremely low condition. He has not regained consciousness in the past twelve days.

GUMP, GOOGLE & CO., Experts In Laughter

THE GUMPS—THE EMPTY NEST

BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARK PLUG

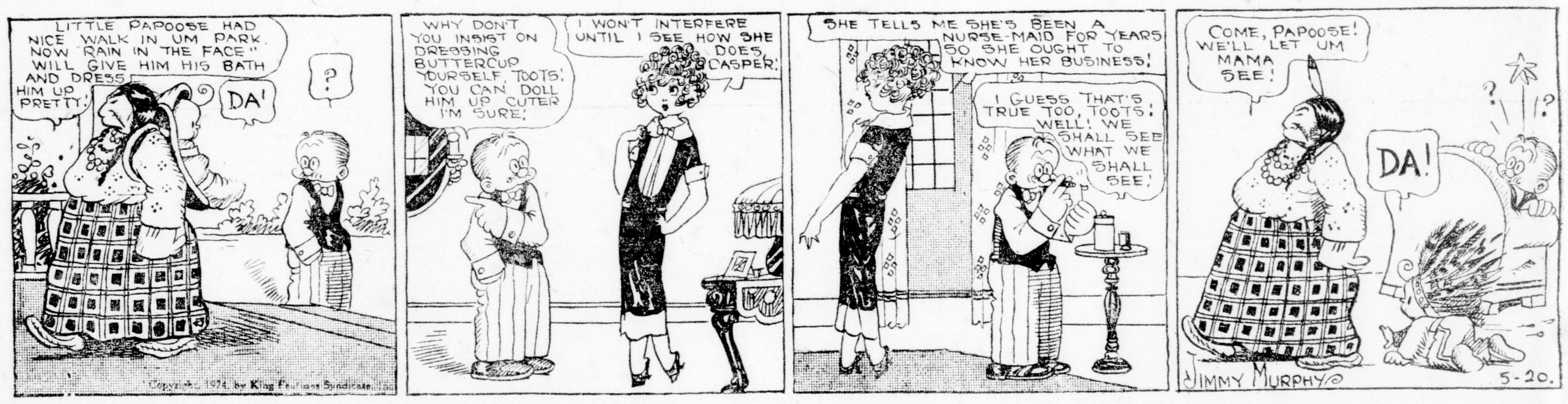
Sparky's Back In Harness.

By BILLY DE BECK

TOOTS AND CASPER

Buttercup's Cap Is Feathered.

By JIMMY MURPHY



MUTT AND JEFF

Jeff Proceeds to Give Count Clutts a Line on Himself.

By BUD FISHER

REG'LAR FELLERS

Just a Little Nick-Name.

By GENE BYRNES